

ORIGINAL

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ELECTIONS

ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

POST-ELECTION WRAP-UP

SESSION II

Thursday, February 6, 2014

1 PARTICIPANTS:

2 Board Members:

3 LOIS NEUMAN, Chair

4 GRAHAM JOHNSON

5 BRIGITTA MULLICAN

6 STEPHEN WEINER

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 (7:00 p.m.)

3 MS. NEUMAN: Well, we welcome you all
4 here with us this evening. I want to explain that
5 one of our members is not here. Carol Millman is
6 not here. She's in Florida, but she sends regards
7 and tells us how she's enjoying herself in the
8 sand while we are dealing with snow. I wanted to
9 follow up from the first -- oh, how about if
10 introduce ourselves? Go ahead.

11 MS. MULLICAN: Brigitta Mullican.

12 MR. JOHNSON: Graham Johnson.

13 MR. WEINER: Stephen Weiner.

14 MS. NEUMAN: And I'm Lois Neuman, and as
15 I mentioned, Carol is our additional person. The
16 follow-up from the first open session on January
17 the 24th, there was a question about the
18 attorney's absence, and the explanation is that
19 she provides advice to the board and is with us at
20 our regular meetings. And as I understand it's
21 been stated in the past, she does not deal with
22 legal issues with the public, so she will work

1 with us at board meetings. In response to
2 comments from the last session, we changed the
3 format to two parts. The first one is your
4 remarks and we'll still do 5-minute rounds, and if
5 you wanted to speak again for 5 minutes you're
6 welcome to. And then at the conclusion of all the
7 remarks, we will then ask questions if we have
8 any. This is the new piece that the people that
9 came the last time said they wanted to hear from
10 the board, so we will ask for more information or
11 examples or so forth; any things we have questions
12 about. So, without further ado, we'll get
13 started, and we have -- anybody else want to sign
14 up? Sign -- good. So, here we go back into our
15 listening mode, and the first person is?

16 SPEAKER: Jim Marrinan.

17 MR. MARRINAN: Good evening, all. For
18 the record, Jim Marrinan of 5 Oak Creek Court.
19 I'm looking forward to some of the feedback from
20 our last session, and since then I've been doing
21 additional thinking about looking at the future of
22 elections in the city, and one of the things that

1 jumps out at me is the issue of having same-time
2 elections as the Presidential and State. If that,
3 in fact, happens then what happens to this board
4 is a question. I mean how does the board go
5 forward to represent the City of Rockville in
6 those elections because the county would be the
7 predominant board? That's a question, and related
8 to that is the referendum questions. The one deal
9 with this issue of having same-time elections as
10 the Presidential/State is the advisory referendum
11 came down strongly against having them at the same
12 time. It was 51 to 43. That's quite a
13 significant endorsement of not doing it. The
14 others, too, need to be looked at, especially the
15 issue of four-year terms, which I think will be
16 approved by the current mayor and council. I
17 haven't really much else to say at this point
18 except I thank you for doing this work and coming
19 out for a second time, but I do look forward to
20 feedback from you in the next part of this
21 meeting. Thank you.

22 MS. NEUMAN: Thank you.

1 SPEAKER: I have no one else signed up
2 if you want to ask the floor.

3 MS. MILLER: I'm Judy Miller and I've
4 come to several of these events, and I first just
5 want to say I'm astonished, astonished that the
6 city attorney is not in attendance. She should be
7 at least listening. So, I'll start with this
8 again. I'm becoming increasingly concerned by the
9 drawback and the formalization of this process
10 which only contributes to the confusion,
11 inaccessibility, and frustration surrounding our
12 elections. I do want to thank the board for
13 volunteering, and say you stepped into a system
14 and have been working on a system that has badly
15 needed fixing for years. The last two elections
16 have escalated to a boil to no good end. The
17 issues brought forward still need to be answered
18 and addressed. I sent in a letter back in 2011 to
19 the election board. I asked for some answers to
20 just some general questions. All I got back was a
21 letter from the board basically telling me to read
22 the code. The board said they didn't give any

1 advisory opinions. When issues or complaints are
2 brought before the board, they are handled in a
3 rather informal manner in contrast to the very
4 formal constraints the public must follow to even
5 try to interact now with the board. I think this
6 really could put a chill on public speech and
7 participation, and I regret that we do not have
8 the lively and well-attended forums we had in the
9 past. I think it helped and made us all have much
10 better feelings. The last complaint dealt with
11 the anonymous literature, and here's what appears
12 to have happened that somehow the person came to
13 city hall. Perhaps the head of the election board
14 spoke with the person, then the board met and it
15 was kind of -- and I'm -- closed down -- the
16 attorney -- just saying the law might be
17 unconstitutional, and it might need to be changed
18 in the future. The whole thing was turned upside
19 down, and there wasn't an advisory opinion or
20 explanation as to why. So, in the last two
21 elections we got a lot of drama, politicization,
22 hype, and publicity, but few answers and always a

1 promise to update the election code. This is
2 unfair and unnecessary and adds to the general
3 distrust of our government. There might be a lot
4 less complaints if the law was clear and there was
5 more legal guidance and support. It shouldn't be
6 a continual guessing game. Most of the work of
7 this body is legal in nature and revolves around
8 the election code. You are lay volunteers. You
9 must rely on the legal counsel for most of your
10 work. There appears to be a need for a more
11 comprehensive and proactive involvement by staff
12 to update this antiquated legal code. As I said
13 in 2011, legal opinions need to be given and
14 published. We still have a prohibition against
15 anonymous literature supporting candidates. I
16 hope it remains. The disposition of the complaint
17 is not my concern. I'm not into any punitive
18 issues here. That's not what I'm concerned about
19 at all. I think the public needs to know what's
20 legal and what isn't legal. There's no need to
21 reinvent the wheel. The State has a whole
22 division that works with elections, and they have

1 nicely published opinions and helpful attorneys,
2 and they do answer the public's phone calls, and
3 they will talk to the public. I will suggest you
4 emulate the State and endeavor to open up with
5 this process and operate by standard procedure. I
6 do appreciate your listening, and listening is
7 always important, but it's really past time to
8 update our election process and make our system
9 clearer, more user-friendly and accessible. Thank
10 you.

11 MS. NEUMAN: Thank you.

12 SPEAKER: Madam Chairman, Christina
13 Ginsberg will speak next.

14 MS. NEUMAN: Thank you.

15 MS. GINSBERG: Thank you. Thank you,
16 Doug. I'm going to start out by saying again that
17 I am really surprised the city attorney is not
18 here as Judy pointed out to you. No other
19 attorney involved with the Board of Supervisors of
20 Elections behaves in this way, and I suggest that
21 you perform a little experiment of your own and
22 call over to Mike McFadden with the county and see

1 how fast he gets on the phone with you and can
2 answer questions. Now, on the 28th of January,
3 2012, the Richard Gottfried campaign submitted a
4 list of issues to the then board that needed to be
5 addressed, and I think Rich is going to go over
6 some of that, but I would like to re-state for the
7 record that all of the issues that were in that
8 letter of the 28th of January, 2012, are still
9 valid and should be considered by you. Now, I
10 have a number of points on here that I know I'm
11 not going to get through in 5 minutes, and I'm
12 kind of unhappy with that because in the former
13 format we would have been able to do that, but I
14 will start at the top and see how far we get.

15 MS. NEUMAN: And you can come back.

16 MS. GINSBERG: Okay. The ability of the
17 board to perform a recount -- in spite of the fact
18 that Maryland indicated some years ago that paper
19 balloting was to be the preferred method of
20 voting, Rockville's Board of Supervisors of
21 Elections has done virtually nothing to prepare
22 for transitioning to paper ballots. Both Tacoma

1 Park and Gaithersburg use alternate voting systems
2 such as Sequoia that collect votes on a paper
3 ballot that is read instantly at the voting sight.
4 What has the board done to evaluate that or
5 educate itself on those systems? The ability to
6 perform a recount is critical because of the
7 narrow vote margins in Rockville elections. In
8 most elections that I'm talking about; State or
9 County or Federal, the number of dubious ballots
10 which are provisional same-day registration and
11 absentee are far less than the number of votes
12 between the winning and the losing candidates;
13 therefore issues with dubious ballots rarely
14 change an election result. However, re-adding
15 votes from a voting machine, which one of the
16 former board members -- not any of you -- told me
17 was what a recount was, is not a recount. Would
18 the board please clarify the steps it is prepared
19 to take to address the recount issue and the steps
20 it has taken to educate itself on this issue?
21 Furthermore, I am unsure at this point that the
22 board of Supervisors of Elections count same-day

1 registration and provisional votes in a manner
2 that allows these votes to be segregated.
3 Although it appears that the city's election judge
4 manual mandates that provisional votes at the
5 polling sites be collected on a provisional paper
6 ballot, there seems to be confusion about same-day
7 registration at city hall voting on a voting
8 machine that is also used by verified and
9 confirmed voters thereby creating a possible issue
10 that non-eligible person's votes are conflated
11 with county votes. The county mandates that
12 same-day voters may submit a registration at the
13 voting site on the day of election and vote on a
14 provisional ballot; that is a paper ballot that is
15 verified by the County Board of Elections before
16 being added to the vote count. Does or does not
17 the city follow the same protocol because I've
18 gotten different answers from different people on
19 - this? - At this time, in my humble opinion, should
20 the problem arise you cannot provide a valid
21 recount of the ballots triggering a recount. The
22 Rockville threshold for triggering a recount is

1 too large relevant to the size of the voting
2 numbers. It needs to decreased to at most 50
3 votes, and in 2011 the difference between the
4 winner and the loser was 150 votes. And the
5 differences between some of the candidates was
6 less than 50 votes. If there's an issue, you guys
7 cannot resolve that under the system that you
8 have. The official result is too hasty. Official
9 election results for all government elections
10 superior to Rockville's all have a built-in review
11 period where the elections, including the
12 performance of the voting machines and the
13 election judges, are verified and evaluated, and
14 the board's review the provisional and absentee
15 votes in a process called the canvass. The time
16 to finish the canvass, review, and validate is set
17 by State and Federal Law. The City of Rockville
18 appears to have no such review time. In fact, the
19 board has been criticized in the past for not
20 releasing the results by a preconceived time; a
21 time set for the convenience of Channel 11 and the
22 candidate's post-election parties. This has to

1 stop. The board needs a period to verify the
2 election in a meaningful way. Certainly the board
3 cannot do so under the ex-temp protocols and
4 conventions that it follows, and if it takes a
5 week or 10 days to provide a true, official
6 result, so be it. I'm fine with that. Campaign
7 finance states: This is an ongoing issue with
8 Rockville's Board of Elections that the campaign
9 finance reports need to be collected in a timely
10 way; that is when the press is able to review and
11 publish the reports. This board has said that it
12 does not feel the press is an important part of
13 the process, and that people can read the results
14 online. I could not more strongly disagree with
15 that, and we have been consistent in saying that
16 both individually and as the President of Twinburg
17 Citizens Association. And we asked Susan Hoffman
18 this question in 2009 would she released her
19 reports in time for the Gazette to publish them,
20 and she had to agree because all the other
21 candidates agreed to do it. So, I strongly
22 disagree with any statement from this board that

1 the written press is not an important part of this
2 process. This country has a tradition of free
3 press as an integral part of the process. When
4 the board negates this by denying information be
5 released in a timely way it impunes the political
6 process. In the 2013 election cycle the city
7 council overruled the board and did provide for
8 the campaign finance reports to be provided in a
9 timely manner. It needs to be written into the
10 city code that the second campaign finance reports
11 is to collected on the Friday before the last
12 Wednesday before the first Tuesday of November.
13 This is critical to ensure that the press has time
14 to review, evaluate, and publish an analysis of
15 the campaign finance reports before the election.
16 The role of the board: The board has not publicly
17 addressed the issue of the inner actions of the
18 board members with non-traditional media such as
19 websites, blogs, and other Internet phenomena as
20 well as the propriety of board members appearing
21 at campaign events, nor has the board drawn up
22 definite standards for its members to follow or

1 elucidated what will constitute cause for a board
2 member's resignation. If the board is using its
3 closed-door sessions or even informal talks
4 between the chair and the members to address these
5 issues, it is wrong to do so as such action does
6 not serve to inform the public that such action
7 has been taken. From the public perspective since
8 there's no public review of the board's actions,
9 if those reviews were necessary in this past
10 cycle, the board members are acting with impunity.
11 The role of the city attorney: With regard to the
12 incident of the anonymous literature which was
13 distributed in King Farm, the city attorney has
14 not as yet provided a written advisory opinion
15 that justifies the action of the board in
16 declaring that anonymous literature is permitted
17 in Rockville. The attorney's role should be to
18 provide such a written opinion when she advises
19 the board or any city governmental body to ignore
20 the city code and charter. This should only be
21 done under the most dire situations and only with
22 a written advisory opinion. In addition, there

1 have been numerous troubling instances in the past
2 election cycle. First of all, there seems to be
3 confusion in the clerk's office as to what rights
4 the public has to inspect financial disclosure
5 forms which are required by state law to be
6 collected and open to the public on demand, and I
7 would say demand being the day that they're in the
8 office is the day the public can come in and look
9 at them. I would like to know if the city
10 attorney instruct city employee, Louise Atkins,
11 that the public must request these forms via the
12 Maryland Freedom of Information Act this past
13 October? The clerk's office withdrew from this
14 position once the relevant code was cited by the
15 person who was requesting those forms, but the
16 public should not have to instruct the city
17 attorney or any representative of the city
18 attorney, and by which I mean Louise or whoever
19 decided that the MPPIA had to be involved, as to
20 the content of the city code especially where it's
21 clearly meant that the information collected is
22 intended for public review. Furthermore, this

1 behavior discourages the average member of the
2 public from exercising their legal rights to
3 inspect information of this type. Secondly, the
4 refusal of the city attorney, who has apparently
5 assumed all responsibility for interpreting the
6 city code, to answer simple questions is
7 troubling. The city attorney or the city clerk
8 should be able to answer simple questions. The
9 refusal to do so puts the city in a state of
10 anarchy and impairs the ability of the city to
11 enforce its own laws. The city loses all legal
12 standing when a candidate, campaign, or even a
13 member of the public asks a question, receives no
14 answer, and proceeds with a course of action.
15 Whether that course of action is the practical
16 course, a best interpretation, or even
17 deliberately transgressive, once the city attorney
18 has declined to answer, no further action can be
19 taken by the city. You cannot tell people that
20 you don't know what the answer is, and then when
21 they try to do something, try to discipline them.
22 You don't even do that with four-year olds. The

1 law rests on the city attorney's action and
2 declining to act denies the validity of the law.
3 Previously the city clerks have answered simple
4 questions in one or two days. This is no longer
5 the case. Why? Thirdly, the city attorney seems
6 to be confused as to what her role is in her
7 interactions with the public. Both the state and
8 county attorney's office will meet with a member
9 of the public for brief informational interviews,
10 which is -- an hour is a brief informational
11 interview. The city attorney refuses to do that,
12 and what you said at the beginning of this hearing
13 is truly appalling. It is the responsibility of
14 the board to act as the proxy for the public's
15 interest in these matters and uphold the Maryland
16 Freedom of Information Act as well as any other
17 federal, state, and municipal law and to impose
18 standards of conduct on the city attorneys who
19 serve under that law. I do not see, especially in
20 the format that the board has chosen to use today,
21 that the board appreciates this fact. And since
22 I'm over, I will step aside and let somebody else

1 talk.

2 SPEAKER: Thank you.

3 MS. NEUMAN: Who's the next person?

4 SPEAKER: Rich Gottfried.

5 MR. GOTTFRIED: Good evening. How's
6 everybody?

7 SPEAKER: All right.

8 MR. GOTTFRIED: I don't have any
9 prepared comments. I'm not going to stand up here
10 and read word for word. Christina has about 20
11 pages.

12 MS. NEUMAN: Could you just state your
13 name for the --

14 MR. GOTTFRIED: Richard Gottfried.

15 MS. NEUMAN: Thank you, for the record.
16 Thank you.

17 MR. GOTTFRIED: Again, I don't have
18 anything written. Specifically, I was going to
19 have general comments. Christina has written
20 about 20 pages, which I'm sure she'd love to come
21 back and give you another 10 minutes or so. She's
22 been very detailed.

1 MR. GOTTFRIED: Okay. Basically, my
2 perspective is from kind of the candidate's
3 perspective, you know. And I'm sure Brigitta
4 remembers way back in 2007 when she ran, you know,
5 the training we got from the city manager was, you
6 know, we got the book, and basically said, you
7 know, here are the rules. Here's section 8, and
8 that was pretty much it. So, I hope the board and
9 the city clerk's office and the city manager get
10 together, and my point, what I wanted you to walk
11 away with is because the planning process -- a
12 process to re-look with fresh eyes from a fresh
13 board from a fresh city attorney and from a fresh
14 city clerk's office, does the city code -- does it
15 make sense from someone who doesn't know let's say
16 Maryland state law or the City of Rockville law?
17 We do this planning, and we scrub various plans.
18 We take a look at the City of Rockville Master
19 Plan, and we look at that after so many years.
20 We've gone through the (inaudible) Neighborhood
21 Plan, and that took a couple of years. So, the
22 city is used to taking a look at its existing

1 documents and seeing if they make sense. Someone
2 told me that the Maryland election law rules are
3 maybe like that thick, and they have examples, and
4 they have illustrations, and they have some FAQs,
5 you know. A lot of people ran -- you know, they
6 ran, seven and eleven; there weren't a lot of
7 expert candidates who really -- you know, you read
8 the law. You really didn't understand what were
9 the goal posts; what we could do, what we couldn't
10 do. When I looked at the financial reports
11 because, you know, I'm an accountant, I'm a CPA.
12 I was like OMG. These numbers all over the place
13 -- don't even make sense. Are you kidding me?
14 And they add this thing and subtract this thing,
15 and I don't know. Do we put credit cards in?
16 Don't we put credit cards in? You know, the loan
17 documents are unbelievable. Brigitta knows what
18 I'm talking about. I don't mean to pick on you,
19 Brigitta, but you're looking at these things, and
20 it's all over the place. So, I think we need to,
21 one -- two things. One, have a process where we
22 educate the candidates who are running because

1 there's just -- the people we get just not
2 educated in a political way. We're not born or
3 raised or have it in our blood to be politicians.
4 We are citizens of all backgrounds with all
5 different types of experience and aren't experts.
6 And during this training period when candidates
7 are running, there has to be more time where
8 there's training. You know, what does the law
9 say? What can we do? What we can't do, you know,
10 through all the different -- you know, how to do
11 the financial report? What's an example of a
12 proper filling out of a financial report? What's
13 an example of things that are not proper that go
14 on those different forms? So, I think if we just
15 look at the document again and really drill it
16 down and really beef it up where it's very clear.
17 Does that make sense? I think also with
18 technology -- switching gears to the results of
19 the campaign, I know in the other elections we
20 have here in Maryland you can go onto the Board of
21 Election's website and as the -- they're called
22 the precincts -- as the precincts come in -- we

1 have districts -- as the precincts come in, they
2 actually post the results of each precinct as they
3 come in. They may not be validated yet, but at
4 least the numbers are coming off the machines.
5 And then you can testify those results later on.
6 There's a little bit of a problem with the timing
7 because we only get -- I'm trying to remember --
8 how many days? It's 48 hours or something. Is
9 that correct? I think we only get 48 hours to
10 dispute the election, but the election isn't
11 certified --

12 SPEAKER: I don't know.

13 MR. GOTTFRIED: You don't remember?
14 Okay, it's in here. Hold on a second. My time is
15 running. But there's a period -- the end of my
16 point is that we need to have at least a process
17 where they have 10 days, okay, because there's not
18 enough time between when we can dispute an
19 election and when it becomes certified and in the
20 books. So, I think if we can look at that process
21 that would be great. Oh, I did take up five
22 minutes. What can I tell you? So, anyway, thanks

1 for listening. Again, thanks for volunteering.
2 We all do a lot of volunteering. So, again, if we
3 can just look at -- relooking at the process, and
4 if it takes two or three years to have -- every
5 plan, our master plan, everything, the Rockville
6 Pipe Plan, you know, has taken a number of years.
7 And what Jim said, I think we need to take -- we
8 need to prioritize what we're going to correct in
9 the code, but I think one of the immediate things
10 or points that we need to look at right now is
11 does the code address four-year terms and it
12 doesn't. So, I think we really need to make that
13 a priority among your other priorities is to put
14 language in for a four-term mayor and a four-term
15 council person, and that may take you a year and a
16 half, you know, before the next election or
17 longer. Who knows? It's going to take us longer,
18 but I think we need to start to think about what
19 does that language look like, looking at other
20 municipalities who have four-year terms like
21 Gaithersburg, et cetera, and what is their
22 language? How do we transition from a two-year

1 term code to a four-year term code, so when it
2 comes it won't be like scrambling and we won't
3 know what to do. You know what I'm saying? So
4 just that, we'd have a head start in that process.
5 Thanks for listening. Appreciate it, and, you
6 know, my name is Richard Gottfried. Got to get
7 that in.

8 SPEAKER: Drew Powell.

9 MR. POWELL: Hi. My name is Drew
10 Powell. I live at 1035 Carnation Drive in
11 Rockville. I wasn't even sure I was going to be
12 able to come over tonight, so I'm really glad I
13 was able to make it at all. And I do not have any
14 prepared comments, although I certainly have some
15 ideas, some that I have expressed in the past and
16 some that I've expressed to you all privately, and
17 I'd like to express some of those publicly
18 tonight. First of all, I want to thank you all
19 for doing a really great job, and I have a sense
20 as to how difficult this job is and how much time
21 it takes and the commitment that you all need to
22 make and how much you're getting paid to do it.

1 So, anyway, so thank you all for doing a great
2 job, and I want to thank you also for reducing --
3 I don't know how to put this in a kind way without
4 -- for making it a little less political. I mean
5 you guys as body have done a very good job of
6 toning down the political nature of your all's
7 decisions and how you operate, and I like that a
8 lot. That's great. I mean you seem to be far
9 more impartial than previous bodies. Let's just
10 put it that way, and I've been very happy to see
11 that, and keep up the good job with that. One of
12 the initiatives I'd like to discuss that I have
13 discussed with you all privately on occasion is
14 this concept of a year wait period between the
15 time that someone can serve on the Board of
16 Elections to the time that person can run for
17 office in Rockville. I'd like to officially put
18 that out tonight. There was a candidate. I was
19 going to make an issue of it during the election.
20 I chose not to. It was in this past election, but
21 there was a candidate who was on the Board of
22 Elections who clearly knew that she was going to

1 be running for office prior -- who knows how much
2 prior to leaving that position, and that person
3 was one of three at the time making decisions in a
4 -- in such a way that -- I don't think there was
5 an issue per se, but in the future it's possible
6 that that could give the air of impropriety; that
7 knowing that you're running for political office,
8 and then days later you're having to abide by
9 rules that you just created or did not create or
10 whatever. I mean a good analogy or perhaps an
11 okay analogy would be serving on the Planning
12 Board making decisions about a land use zoning
13 decision, and then a resigning and a few days
14 later announcing the fact that you have an
15 interest in property that you just made a decision
16 on. People probably wouldn't think too kindly of
17 that, and I just think that a year, at least a
18 year waiting period between the time that someone
19 resigns off the Board of Election to the time that
20 person can run for office in Rockville would be
21 advised, and I think that would reduce any air of
22 impropriety if you will. The other thing that

1 I've always kind of wondered and I never fully
2 understood about the campaign finance reports is
3 that I could go through the campaign finance
4 records with you all. I wouldn't want to do this
5 any time soon, but I could go through reports that
6 are on file from the last year and the years
7 before that, and I could find many reports that
8 have glaring errors in them. I mean just horrible
9 errors; some that are very disturbing errors in
10 them. And I guess my question is unless a citizen
11 brings up these errors, I mean does anybody really
12 sit down and check these reports and, you know, I
13 mean really go over them? Okay, all right. In
14 the past that wasn't too clear on that and glad to
15 see some head shaking that you all do go through
16 the reports very carefully and try to catch
17 errors. And along those lines, there are some, I
18 think, cleaning up that is required. Maybe you're
19 working on this and making the reports clearer so
20 that errors are less likely because some of it's
21 been a little confusing in terms of line a and
22 line b and line c, and it is a little confusing.

1 I fully support what Rich was saying and a lot of
2 folks have said. I've been saying this all along
3 that I think that you all need to adopt the
4 Maryland Election Code fully with certain
5 exceptions, of course, that apply to Rockville in
6 terms of campaign limits, those kinds of things,
7 but with those certain exceptions I think you all
8 need to adopt the Maryland Election law. I think
9 it would make things a lot easier. It's already
10 been done for you. It's already codified. It's
11 -- you know, there are precedents in the state. I
12 mean, it just works nicely to be able to do that.
13 It would answer questions like in-kind
14 contributions, and it's all spelled out very
15 clearly. Let's see here. Also, this is really
16 simple and it costs nothing nowadays, and I'm
17 really discouraged when I see, over time, that you
18 go to the website, which is pretty good nowadays,
19 to rockvillemd.org and you see campaign finance
20 records online, but unfortunately previous years'
21 campaign finance records get wiped out when the
22 new ones go in. It costs nothing to keep those

1 records online, and as a citizen to pay -- I don't
2 know what it is -- a nickel or a dime a page or
3 whatever, for campaign finance records at least
4 the last, you know, cycle or two should remain
5 online. It costs nothing to keep those PDFs up
6 there as a link, and just create a new link, you
7 know, so you have prior election seasons and
8 current election seasons, and I just think it
9 makes a lot of sense to keep those PDFs up there
10 online. It doesn't cost anybody anything, and it
11 just increases the amount of information and
12 transparency to citizens. Lastly there is a
13 concern I have, and I looked in Chapter 8, and I'm
14 really not completely clear about this, so forgive
15 me for going over my time here. But I think we
16 need an absolute and crystal clear answer to a
17 question about the transfer of campaign funds,
18 specifically if a person, if a council member runs
19 for -- whether he's currently running or not for a
20 public office. Let's say the county council, for
21 example, and raises a lot of money at the county
22 level, and then win or lose, whatever the scenario

1 is, comes back to Rockville, and now has, you
2 know, 10, 20, 50, \$100,000 in his campaign coffers
3 from Montgomery County, and that's part of the
4 Maryland ELECTrack system as you all know. What
5 is the status of that money? Can it be brought
6 back in in November or December in this year of
7 2014 back into the Rockville system, or do those
8 two systems, are they not compatible systems and
9 therefore the money cannot be brought back in? On
10 my read of it the money should remain autonomous
11 and should not be co-mingled in any way. That's
12 my read of it, but I think a very clear answer on
13 this particular question needs to happen long
14 before November, December of 2014, so that when
15 that time comes it's clear, and again, there's no
16 political nature to that decision. So, that's all
17 I've got tonight, and I can't thank you enough
18 again for doing a great job. All right. Thank
19 you. --

20 MS. NEUMAN: Thank you, thank you.
21 Okay, where are we? Does anybody else wish to
22 speak? Please?

1 SPEAKER: Theresa Delfino.

2 MS. DEFINO: Hi, thank you for holding
3 this hearing, and it's Defino with no "l,"
4 D-E-F-I-N-O. There's just a couple points I want
5 to make, and I don't have any prepared comments
6 either, but just speaking as a voter, not a
7 candidate, not someone with a campaign, just
8 someone following the election, trying to follow
9 the election, there's a few things I think you
10 could clarify for us. I do agree with Christina
11 that the date of the last report should be early
12 enough that the press can take a look at it if
13 they want to, and that citizens can look at them
14 in time and have an analysis. I think there need
15 to be guidelines on when board members can be
16 involved in campaigns, either pictures in Facebook
17 or showing up at campaign events or just general
18 involvement in campaigns supporting candidates
19 either formally, informally. I think that the
20 anonymous mailings, we need to just draw the line
21 and say we're not having them. We have, in the
22 code now that they're not allowed unless they're

1 clearly not associated with a campaign. I don't
2 think anyone believes that mailing that happened
3 in King Farm was not associated with a campaign.
4 It absolutely strained all credulity to think that
5 it wasn't. And even if it wasn't, it clearly
6 endorsed candidates, which is absolutely not
7 allowed from my reading and understanding of it.
8 And I'd like to see some guidelines on what
9 in-kind contributions are, where you draw the
10 line? Are you making t-shirts in your kitchen,
11 and can you count them, or are you printing
12 postage stamps? It seems like a big kind of
13 catch-all category. Thank you.

14 MS. NEUMAN: Thank you. Anybody else?
15 Okay, second time? Anybody want to speak a second
16 time, another time? Yes?

17 MR. POWELL: I'd like to echo the last
18 (inaudible 00:38:31).

19 MS. NEUMAN: We're recording audio, so
20 you don't get recorded unless --

21 MR. POWELL: Drew Powell again. I just
22 would like to echo the recording of the second

1 report. I think that's what we're talking about
2 here and when that report is made available so
3 that the press can get a hold of it -- that kind
4 of thing? I can't tell you how hard I personally
5 fought to change that date to where it is today
6 back, and we're still not quite there yet because
7 the report, at least on this cycle -- I don't know
8 if it changes. I've got to think about it. I
9 don't think it does, but I believe the second
10 report is due the Monday evening -- correct me if
11 I'm wrong -- the Monday evening, close of business
12 before the Tuesday election. I think that's how
13 it works, and that's really not -- not really
14 enough time for the press or for others to do any
15 kind of in-depth investigation into contributors
16 and analysis and that kind of thing. It's just
17 not enough. If you're talking about the Gazette,
18 for example, they have a press deadline of noon on
19 Tuesday, and that's their cold deadline. I mean,
20 after noon on Tuesday I don't care what happens,
21 it's not going in the paper, so there's not a
22 whole lot they can do about it. If you're not a

1 very industrious person in working literally
2 through the night on Monday night, no one's going
3 to hear about any of it. So, basically nowadays
4 if you're lucky you've got the Patches kind of a
5 historical, it's kind of in the past now, as far
6 as Rockville's concerned. So, you've got the
7 Gazette and you've got The Sentinel. So, I would
8 recommend without question that the latest date
9 would be the Friday before the second Tuesday. In
10 other words you've got the Friday and that's the
11 deadline for the second reporting period, and then
12 you have Tuesday, and then the following Tuesday
13 after that's the election Tuesday. That date does
14 work a lot better for having folks in the press be
15 able to do an analysis and get that information
16 out to the electorate. And there's, you know,
17 other what -- I've always said this, other than
18 what a candidate says and other than a candidate's
19 record, should they have any kind of a record, the
20 only other place that a voter can really get
21 information about a candidate is sources of
22 funding, and those are the three kind of

1 categories. That's where a person can look for
2 data; those three areas where the candidate says
3 the record and their sources of funding. So, I
4 think it's an important component, and having that
5 report due on the Friday before the Tuesday before
6 the Tuesday election works well enough to be able
7 to get that information out in the press. So
8 thanks. I appreciate it.

9 MS. NEUMAN: Thank you. Yes?

10 MR. MARRINAN: Again, Jim Marrinan. I
11 miss-spoke earlier when I said the difference on
12 the advisory referendum -- I miss-spoke the --
13 against having same-time elections was 53 to 42.
14 That's an 11 percent variation, so I make the
15 record clear. My second question goes to -- I
16 thought earlier you mentioned that you were going
17 to give us feedback on our previous testimony. I
18 submitted six issues, and there were a number of
19 other issues expressed and more tonight, but are
20 you going to tell us what you think or are we --

21 MS. NEUMAN: Let me clarify. We have
22 not met as a board since we met with you the last

1 time, or since you met with us the last time, and
2 so what we're doing right now is collecting all
3 the information that we need or that people want
4 to give us. And then at our next meeting we will
5 go through all the details of the topics and the
6 issues that you've presented, and it will probably
7 take more than one meeting, and then determine how
8 we're going to handle them. Right now we're just
9 listening, and we all have four or five different
10 sets of opinions because we have not talked to
11 give you any answers as a board. And I would
12 think you'd want the official positions, so the
13 idea is give us a little bit of time to get
14 together as a board, and I think historically we
15 have said and we have responded to everything
16 that's come before us, and have tried to take
17 action on as many things as we can recognizing
18 that the first thing that hit us was campaign
19 finance report forms and we spent from November,
20 December till February, March revising those forms
21 so the candidates would have them in time for May
22 or June, May. That took an awful lot of our

1 attention, so some things that were mentioned in
2 previous reports that were of concern could not be
3 dealt with in the same degree of intensity simply
4 because the next step was we had to run an
5 election. So, now that we're on an off-election
6 year, we are working hard to be reminded of things
7 that we didn't take -- that weren't addressed
8 before. We addressed them, but there may not have
9 been any action. So, we want to go back and look
10 at those as well as hear the things that you're
11 bringing to us now. And frankly, as I'm listening
12 there's some things that I'm going, "Oh, really.
13 I didn't know that." So, some are familiar to me
14 and to us, and others are -- didn't realize this
15 was happening, didn't realize this was of concern,
16 so this is always very helpful to get a sense of
17 where everybody's thinking and then try to put it
18 all together.

19 MR. MARRINAN: I'm very sympathetic.
20 The learning curve from where you sit is huge.
21 All of the issues that were aired tonight and the
22 previous session, I mean that takes -- you've got

1 a full-time job almost. My follow-up question is
2 is there a timeline for your next session? Have
3 you scheduled a next session for the public to
4 hear your reaction?

5 MS. NEUMAN: We have not. Do you think
6 we should?

7 MR. MARRINAN: Well, I thought that's --

8 MS. NEUMAN: No, we're having a meeting
9 on February 13th. Our regular board is the first
10 board meeting we've had for a couple months maybe
11 because we've gone into listening mode, and so we
12 have not met with the idea of getting information
13 from all sources about how the election went. And
14 that's kind of where we are right now. Our next
15 step is to meet on Thursday as a board and go back
16 to our regular meeting pattern, and we've been
17 meeting almost every other week, which I
18 understand is fairly -- much more than has
19 happened in the past, but we have been meeting
20 very regularly and have called meetings when some
21 things come up. And I don't know that we'd
22 thought about having another open forum in terms

1 of where we are on things, but we certainly can I
2 should think. Is there any reason why we can't?

3 MR. MARRINAN: No, that wasn't my
4 question.

5 MS. NEUMAN: Oh.

6 MR. MARRINAN: You're going to have
7 another meeting on February 13th.

8 MS. NEUMAN: That's our board meeting,
9 correct; our regular board meeting.

10 MR. MARRINAN: Now, that will be an open
11 meeting? A public meeting?

12 MS. NEUMAN: Our meetings are always
13 open.

14 MR. MARRINAN: Okay, but not for input?
15 It's for you to tell us where you stand?

16 MS. NEUMAN: Well, it's for us to talk.

17 MR. MARRINAN: Yeah.

18 MS. NEUMAN: It's for the board to talk.
19 We've had input from you all.

20 MR. MARRINAN: Right.

21 MS. NEUMAN: Now we need to sit and go
22 through all these things --

1 MR. MARRINAN: Understand.

2 MS. NEUMAN: -- you've given us and say
3 where are we as a board on those issues, and then
4 we may come to -- say we don't know enough about
5 this. We want to hear a little bit more about
6 this, and we would seek more information.

7 MR. MARRINAN: Well, one of the things
8 that seems consistently at issue here is the
9 involvement of the city attorney. Will the city
10 attorney be present to answer all of those
11 questions like the question I raised. Can the
12 board count ballots before the polls close? In
13 past years I think the answer has been yes. You
14 don't have to wait for the polls to close. We
15 need an attorney to tell us what the rules are,
16 and you -- I mean you're in a learning mode --

17 MS. NEUMAN: We know the rules.

18 MR. MARRINAN: I'm sorry?

19 MS. NEUMAN: We know the rules. The
20 issue is how stringently do we adhere to them to
21 be able to justify our behavior, and if the rule
22 says this, then do we adhere to the rule or do we

1 not?

2 MR. MARRINAN: And the city attorney
3 will be there to advise you? --

4 MS. NEUMAN: The city attorney is there
5 at every board meeting.

6 MR. MARRINAN: Okay.

7 MS. NEUMAN: So the city attorney is
8 always there to advise us, yes.

9 MR. MARRINAN: Okay, thank you.

10 MS. NEUMAN: And it's an open meeting,
11 so it's not -- usually what we do is if we have
12 people that have come to be at our meeting, we
13 will conduct our business, and at the very end we
14 will then ask if there's anybody there -- if
15 anybody wants to offer comments or whatever they
16 came for, we're more than happy to hear it. But
17 if we continue to listen to everybody that came to
18 the meetings and if we had a lot of people, we
19 would never have a chance to talk to each other.

20 MR. MARRINAN: No question. I --

21 MS. NEUMAN: There's some -- at some
22 point where we need to say, "Okay, what do we

1 think?" and then continue to get input, but we
2 always have input from people. People have come
3 to our meetings and have offered comments.

4 MR. MARRINAN: I just want to reflect on
5 the amount of frustration that you heard this
6 evening --

7 MS. NEUMAN: I hear it.

8 MR. MARRINAN: -- about the process and
9 how it's not quite working, and how do we improve
10 that process so that everybody is sort of on the
11 same page; legally, procedurally, whatever.

12 MS. NEUMAN: We have some ideas that if
13 you're interested in looking at national trends
14 and what came out of Presidential Commission on
15 election administration; very good report and can
16 be found just looking it up electronically, with
17 some ideas for where we are as a nation heading in
18 relationship to elections, and we would like to
19 see what we can do as a city to address some of
20 those. So, that may answer some of the concerns
21 that people have.

22 MR. MARRINAN: I'm sure it does, but

1 that Presidential Commission didn't address the
2 issues of non-partisan elections. We --

3 - MS. NEUMAN: It addressed the issue of
4 partisan elections.

5 MR. MARRINAN: Right, but where --

6 MS. NEUMAN: Talks about elections with
7 a capital E; administration of elections.

8 MR. MARRINAN: Right, but it does not
9 address the issue of how partisan situations can
10 get involved in non-partisan elections such as in
11 the City of Rockville.

12 MS. NEUMAN: Yes, that's true. It talks
13 about processes, election processes; cost of
14 elections, you need more resources, we need --
15 we're going to need new equipment, things like
16 that. It's big topics.

17 MR. MARRINAN: And those are important
18 issues.

19 MS. NEUMAN: Oh, absolutely, and I'm not
20 saying they're the be-all and the end-all. I'm
21 just saying that they are best practices in
22 elections.

1 MR. MARRINAN: Best practices -- but
2 where are you getting input about non-partisan
3 versus partisan involvement in the city elections?

4 MS. NEUMAN: We will hear you and what
5 the concerns are. I'm not totally sure I
6 understand this -- when you say the city's
7 involvement in partisan and non-partisan
8 elections. Is that what you said?

9 MR. MARRINAN: The candidates.

10 MS. NEUMAN: The candidates?

11 MR. MARRINAN: Example: As I pointed
12 out at the last session, we had people running for
13 elective office in the city who were telling
14 people they had been endorsed by partisan, and
15 that they included that in their testimonies.
16 We've had instances where our elected officials
17 have allowed their names to be used in partisan
18 elections. It's a two-way street. Where are you
19 getting input on those kinds of issues?

20 MS. NEUMAN: Well, the same way we get
21 input on anything, which is go to the literature,
22 see what other jurisdictions are doing and try to

1 look at best practices from other areas rather
2 than reinvent the wheel.

3 MR. MARRINAN: Oh, absolutely.

4 MS. NEUMAN: And then take which of
5 those might work best for the City of Rockville.

6 MR. MARRINAN: I would add to that list
7 the ICMA: the International City Managers'
8 Association. They have a long history about
9 involvement in non-partisan elections. There are
10 guidelines. There are standards. There are -- to
11 add to your list.

12 MS. NEUMAN: If you recall one of the
13 other things that was on our -- one of the first
14 issues that came before us was the withdrawal of
15 the candidate, if you remember that from the
16 previous election.

17 MR. MARRINAN: Right.

18 MS. NEUMAN: One of the things we did to
19 look at recommendations that would come from the
20 board is to study what other jurisdictions were
21 doing in terms of withdrawal of a candidate, so we
22 pulled all that information in. We looked at it

1 and said which of these may apply to us, and then
2 we crafted -- that was one of the things we used
3 to craft our recommendations. So, we would do the
4 same thing on all these other issues that might be
5 a little thorny to be able to say what are other
6 people doing, and does this help us in making a
7 recommendation.

8 MR. MARRINAN: I think we're adding to
9 your workload because I -- I thank you for your
10 time.

11 MS. NEUMAN: Thank you. Do we have any
12 questions of anybody who presented?

13 SPEAKER: Yes.

14 MS. NEUMAN: All right, do you want to
15 go first?

16 SPEAKER: Thank you. First, thank you
17 all very much. This has been an education. I
18 guess my question -- Christina Ginsberg, you'd
19 mentioned that a list of questions had been
20 submitted to an earlier board I believe you said
21 on the 28th of January, 2012, and do we still have
22 that list? I think you were going through it and

1 hadn't finished, and I want to make sure that we
2 address all those issues. We do have it. Okay.
3 Thank you.

4 MS. NEUMAN: We have it. We have it.
5 We do have it. It's in several iterations, but we
6 do have it. We've gotten it by e-mail. We've got
7 it duplicated, but we do have it. Don't worry
8 about it. We have it.

9 SPEAKER: Okay, thank you.

10 MS. NEUMAN: We have a lot of stuff, and
11 not to minimize the importance of any of it, but
12 we just have to cull through what we have, and
13 that's why it's very important for you to remind
14 us. That's a good thing, but we do have it.
15 Thank you. Are there -- anything else? Graham?

16 MR. JOHNSON: One of the questions
17 raised was how detailed should the review of the
18 finance reports -- how much detail should there
19 be, and I'm trying to (inaudible) comments on how
20 far should that be? Should they be in, like, if a
21 candidate says my bank balance is \$5,000, to
22 confirm that with the bank? Certainly one thing

1 is to look at the documents themselves, and do
2 they sort of -- does anything stand out as weird
3 or strange or peculiar or doesn't make sense. And
4 the other is to confirm the accuracy of the
5 information's contained, so I was -- how far -- I
6 believe it's Mr. Gottfried that brought this up --
7 how far should we go with that?

8 MR. GOTTFRIED: I'm back. Richard
9 Gottfried. No, we're not auditing. We're not
10 talking about auditing the campaign reports as far
11 as verifying their balance, but for example -- I'm
12 just trying to remember because it's been a while.
13 But you had some candidates who were putting kind
14 of their loans that they were loaning from either
15 from themselves or from their family as
16 contributions and inflating the contributions --
17 number that they were getting more -- there were
18 contributions when they really didn't have
19 contributions because one is a loan and one's a
20 contribution to the campaign. Does that make
21 sense?

22 MR. JOHNSON: Would there have been a

1 means by which a reasonable person looking at the
2 reports could tell if something is something is
3 labeled as a contribution that it surely was not a
4 contribution but a loan?

5 MR. GOTTFRIED: Only if they knew of
6 their family members and the last names of them,
7 they wouldn't be able to tell the difference.

8 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.

9 MR. GOTTFRIED: I mean you should
10 probably have a report. After you get the
11 reports, and they're just not, let's say, accurate
12 or they make sense or there's errors. You should
13 have a period where the candidate can amend their
14 report so it fits the requirements and then
15 re-issue them and they're re-published. Does that
16 make sense? So, I think the difference between a
17 contribution and a loan was one. Again, I think
18 Theresa mentioned this, you know, just defining
19 what's an in-kind contribution and who it's coming
20 from, I think has to be clarified. The loan
21 agreement document, you know, are you paying
22 yourself back? Are you -- how long are you going

1 to keep it open till? You know, things like that.
2 I don't know if that helps or not, okay.

3 MR. POWELL: Drew Powell. Yeah, and
4 it's not just the report itself. It's the
5 continuity between the reports. I could give you
6 -- and I don't want to it live tonight, but I'll
7 be more than happy to give it to you off-line. I
8 can give you an example of an \$8,000 discrepancy
9 that's currently in the records for an open
10 account. This person hasn't run for a little
11 while, but their campaign account, I believe, is
12 still open. And there's an \$8,000 discrepancy
13 from one report to the next. In other words,
14 there's X amount of dollars that this person says
15 they have, and you look to the next report, and
16 then the money -- it's weird what happens to the
17 money. It's like is the person saying that
18 there's magically \$8,000 more in the bank now than
19 there was? -- Where did it come from? -- There are
20 questions if you look from report to report, and
21 there needs to be the continuity where the reports
22 dovetail, so that the last report where it leaves

1 off is where the next report begins, and that's
2 not necessarily the case. That's yet another area
3 that you might want to take a look at.

4 MR. JOHNSON: I would imagine that what
5 (inaudible) from what you're saying is that maybe
6 some guidelines should be developed as to how the
7 board should review the very detailed guidance on
8 how the campaign finance reports should be
9 reviewed?

10 MR. GOTTFRIED: I'm sorry. I'm not sure
11 I understand your question.

12 MR. JOHNSON: Would it be useful to
13 develop guidelines for the board on how the
14 campaign finance reports should be reviewed?

15 MR. GOTTFRIED: I think that would
16 definitely be in order, absolutely, and this would
17 just be one of those things where you just make
18 sure that there is a justification between the
19 last report going out and then the next report
20 coming in, and those reports dovetail; that they
21 agree with each other in terms of cash on hand,
22 cash in the bank, all those kinds of issues. And

1 that would be just one of the many line items in a
2 checklist, if you will, in terms of going through
3 the reports, yes.

4 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. All right, thank
5 you.

6 MR. GOTTFRIED: Thank you.

7 MS. NEUMAN: Anything else? Graham, I
8 think, Brigitta?

9 MS. MULLICAN: Well, I also want to
10 thank everybody, and let you know that I have more
11 questions that have arisen since you brought some
12 more of these to our attention. I believe you
13 may, since I've been on the board there's been a
14 lot of stuff, and we've not been able to come to
15 any consensus because we're constantly doing
16 something else. And the idea was to listen to you
17 all and to ask you questions, and I have to
18 refrain myself from trying to put my personal
19 opinions in here because as you all know, I come
20 from a different perspective as a voter and a
21 candidate. And I have some questions that I think
22 I'm allowed to ask but not necessarily get answers

1 to, which you aren't going to get answers to. And
2 Drew said something that really triggered me, and
3 the reason it triggered me is because I'm on the
4 board, and I was trying to put myself in the
5 position that if I want to run for mayor and
6 council, he's saying there should be a one-year
7 period for me if I want to run for council, that
8 I'm not sure I necessarily agree with that, but I
9 think we -- just like all the other codes that
10 we're talking about, that needs to be looked at
11 from our perspective, but as far as I know and we
12 know, there is no restriction. There's nothing
13 that says that I or any candidate on the Board of
14 Supervisors of Elections needs to wait a year
15 before they can become a candidate if they're on
16 the board. Again, that's -- you want to say
17 something to that?

18 SPEAKER: Yes, I do.

19 MS. MULLICAN: I mean if we need to make
20 that rule, then that's something I think the board
21 needs to look at, but I'm not aware of that issue.

22 MS. NEUMAN: There is none.

1 MR. MARRINAN: I think it's a legitimate
2 question. It's a legitimate issue. I'm not sure
3 a one-year timeframe is the right answer, but
4 certainly once a person who is sitting on the
5 board declares that they're going to run they
6 should resign.

7 MS. NEUMAN: Resign. And that was the
8 case this time. There's no issue there. That
9 person did resign.

10 MR. MARRINAN: They did resign.

11 MS. NEUMAN: But it was that waiting
12 period that he brought up.

13 MR. MARRINAN: And I think that's a
14 legitimate guideline for the five of you if you
15 decide to run in the next election. If you
16 declare -- publicly declare that you're a
17 candidate, you should be immediately off the
18 board. I mean it's almost a no-brainer.

19 MS. MULLICAN: Well, as far as I know
20 there's no rule at this point.

21 MR. MARRINAN: And there should be as --

22 MS. MULLICAN: And that's something that

1 we have to discuss that's not been discussed,
2 which as far as I know was not an issue, okay? It
3 just hit me because I was trying to put myself in
4 that position that, you know, what if and what's
5 the rule, and I know that when the person did
6 declare, she did resign, so that was not an issue
7 for the board to address.

8 MR. MARRINAN: I think it needs somehow
9 to be spelled out, to be codified, and so people
10 have a mutual understanding what the rules are.
11 There's just too many gray areas.

12 MS. NEUMAN: Well, that's why I said
13 we've heard some things last week, last time and
14 tonight that are new, certainly new to me. And
15 so, that's why we need to digest it a bit and then
16 talk about it as a board.

17 MR. MARRINAN: Thank you.

18 MS. MULLICAN: Then another question
19 that came up to me was when there was discussion
20 made about adopting the Maryland election laws,
21 that we should be following them, and from the
22 little that I know, that municipalities can run

1 their own elections. There are federal election
2 laws that are followed. There are state laws that
3 are followed, and then there's things that the
4 municipalities can decide on their own. So, it's
5 not always clear to me when you say we should
6 follow the Maryland laws how much of those
7 Maryland laws you're going to want us to follow
8 that we don't already follow because we have to by
9 law. So, there's that fine line as to what our
10 code, as you all keep addressing the different
11 issue -- what our City of Rockville election laws
12 will be. So, that was a concern. I really don't
13 have an answer, but when you mention it, it's like
14 it's not so easy just to say we're going to follow
15 the Maryland laws, okay? But it did bring up
16 another question when you talked about the
17 campaign finance report, you indicate that it
18 should be kept online longer than one year, and
19 then my question would have been or is does the
20 State of Maryland require other candidates -- do
21 other election's financial reports get posted two,
22 three years down? I mean I don't know what --

1 SPEAKER: One answer is in perpetuity --

2 MS. MULLICAN: Okay, so that's something

3 that we've not addressed, and it's an issue that

4 we'll discuss. It's never been brought up. It's

5 just kind of procedure that I think we take it off

6 when you get the new one. Is that what happened?

7 Actually, online stuff is kind of new anyway,

8 right? Okay. So, IT. Yeah. So, again,

9 something that we can look at.

10 MS. NEUMAN: But you see, that's -- as

11 I'm sure this is not new news, but we may come up

12 with some wonderful, glorious, exciting idea, and

13 we don't operate alone, so we then have to talk to

14 other departments and find out if there are rules

15 and regulations in relationship to the IT,

16 whatever it is, and then figure out how we can do

17 it in conjunction. So, if their rules regarding

18 the website and how, in communication, then does

19 what you're asking fit into whatever they do, and

20 if it doesn't, can that be changed? But they're

21 dialogues, there are discussions that would need

22 to go on.

1 MS. MULLICAN: Another question I had
2 that arose from you all was I did not know we had
3 an issue of a recount, so obviously that's
4 something that we'll discuss. I did not know that
5 was an issue at all. The other things is that I
6 --

7 MS. NEUMAN: I don't think the issue was
8 that you were calling for a recount.

9 SPEAKER: No, it's the policy.

10 MS. NEUMAN: It's that your issue is
11 would we be able to do a recount if it was needed?

12 MS. MULLICAN: As of what our policy
13 was, right?

14 MS. NEUMAN: Well, yes, but how would we
15 do it? What our policy is and how would we do it,
16 correct?

17 MS. MULLICAN: That's another discussion
18 that we have not had that is new that will be on
19 our list. Like I said, a lot of things came up.
20 I know that the same-day registration and the
21 absentee voting is a really big thing that we've
22 been discussing, and it is -- it's going to be

1 something we have to deal with, which is going to
2 take a lot of time, and we've already discussed a
3 lot of that. I know I'm only supposed to be
4 asking questions, but you will get some answers,
5 Mr. Marrinan, on the issue of, you know, you
6 wanted results earlier. I mean there's, you know
7 -- in fact, from what I understand my role is that
8 we will all as a body come up with answers and
9 recommendations and that we report to the mayor
10 and council. That's what I understand my role is.
11 That I was still learning my role; that it's not
12 my role or our role here to just have this back
13 and forth dialogue, but it's to ask the public for
14 their concerns. We would deliberate, and then we
15 would put together a report and a recommendation
16 to the mayor and council. That's my
17 understanding, but I'm looking at all these
18 things. I'm like, wow, which one are we going to
19 do first, and as you said, if we're going to go
20 from a two-year to a four-year, that is a big
21 undertaking because it's going to affect so many
22 other codes that need to be taken care of, and

1 from what I understand it's the mayor, council,
2 right? The mayor, council's --

3 MS. NEUMAN: Makes the decision.

4 MS. MULLICAN: And I think we go through
5 a public hearing? I don't know. I don't know the
6 process is what I'm saying, but there's a lot of
7 stuff that's come to us. I won't say too much
8 else, but I wanted to address the in-kind issue
9 because it was brought up by a couple of you. We
10 had discussions also about issues like when the
11 \$25 -- once you spend \$25, then it becomes
12 something that you have to report, and you need
13 authorizations on. The issue I still want to
14 bring up, which is a real concern, and I don't
15 think there's any policy that covers this. If a
16 candidate sends an e-mail to a thousand people,
17 you don't have an authority line, but it could
18 have the same impact as this one lady who did this
19 distribution in her neighborhood, so there's some
20 other issues that -- how do you determine when
21 something has to have an authority line? And then
22 -- you know what I'm saying?

1 MS. NEUMAN: Given the advent of
2 electronic communication and social media, and
3 it's come to our attention from several people in
4 writing and in spoken, that the rules related to
5 that means of communication need to be further
6 defined. We worked in this last election with
7 what we had, which was the written rule and that
8 the name of the treasurer needs to appear on the
9 sign, but what happens to electronic
10 communication? We're aware of the issue. At the
11 moment we have no answers for you because we have
12 to do some digging as to seeing, again, how other
13 jurisdictions handle this and what kind of
14 recommendation we want to make. But you're right.
15 Something needs to be said about this, and we do
16 need to come up with some kind of process. Yes,
17 sir?

18 SPEAKER: May I address that?

19 MS. NEUMAN: Please.

20 MR. MARRINAN: Again, Jim Marrinan. I
21 almost think it's a no brainer. Any kind of
22 communications should have an authority line,

1 period, be it social media, hot piece of paper,
2 whatever. We need that kind of control.

3 MS. NEUMAN: I guess it begs the
4 question of why would an electronic transmission
5 not have an authority line? What would be the
6 rationale for saying you want it in print, but you
7 don't want it on electronic transmission? Is
8 there a reason what you would not do it? Anybody
9 know that? Yes?

10 SPEAKER: Minor concern --

11 MS. NEUMAN: Could you -- thank you.
12 Please come to the -- so we can get your voice
13 recorded for posterity?

14 MR. GOTTFRIED: -- and it just bugs the
15 heck out of me is that I see over the years it
16 seems like in every election there's literature,
17 there are websites, web pages. Like in every
18 election season I can show you examples where
19 authority-lines are not there, and it just bugs
20 me. It's, you know, what are you going to do?
21 Yeah, every piece of electronic information that
22 comes from a candidate, that comes from a campaign

1 committee, absolutely must have an authority line
2 on it. One minor exception though that's kind of
3 how do you do this is Twitter. It's 140
4 characters. You put -- you know, an authority
5 line on that, you're going to be eating up a lot
6 of -- you know, 40 characters of the 140 so, you
7 know, but I mean it's challenging, but --

8 MS. NEUMAN: Frankly, it's a bigger
9 issue than just elections because people could put
10 all kinds of things out there, and you don't know
11 who their source is --

12 MR. GOTTFRIED: Right.

13 MS. NEUMAN: -- so it behooves the
14 reader to determine what is the origin of this
15 information.

16 MR. GOTTFRIED: Exactly, is it your
17 neighbor next door --

18 MS. NEUMAN: Is it reliable and is it
19 valid?

20 MR. GOTTFRIED: Or is it the campaign?
21 But if it comes from a campaign, without question
22 --

1 MS. NEUMAN: It should --

2 MR. GOTTFRIED: -- it should have the

3 authority line on it, no question.

4 MS. MULLICAN: Well, that was a question

5 I had. I mean in that instance it wasn't from a

6 campaign; the person who delivered these flyers in

7 King Farm. And I was trying to say that what if a

8 neighbor sent out an e-mail and did the same

9 thing, okay? I mean it's like not everybody's

10 going to -- it's not a PAC. It's not a campaign

11 person. You know what I'm saying? There's no way

12 this board or anybody in the city can control

13 e-mails.

14 MR. GOTTFRIED: You're absolutely right

15 in terms of the --

16 MS. MULLICAN: I mean, I hear what Jim's

17 saying, but you can't --

18 MR. GOTTFRIED: -- conceptually there's

19 really not a lot of difference between somebody

20 handing out something they typed up versus sending

21 an e-mail out, and you know, there's not a lot of

22 difference. The only difference would be the

1 cost, but you could argue that there's cost of
2 e-mail. You have to get your computer. You have
3 to get your service. There's cost associated with
4 that, too, so you're right. These are tough
5 questions to figure out in today's world.

6 MS. NEUMAN: Well, surely, other places
7 have addressed these because it faces any election
8 contest, and so again, we will go and see what the
9 practices are in other jurisdictions, and see if
10 that will help us to make some decisions on it.

11 MR. GOTTFRIED: The only major danger I
12 think you're going to see here is the First
13 Amendment thing. You certainly don't want to make
14 a decision that's going to be challenged in court
15 and they say, well, you can't do this because of
16 First Amendment issues. Other than that I'm
17 definitely for having as much information as
18 possible about knowing if it's the candidates or
19 the campaigns speaking and having the authority
20 line though. Yes, so.

21 MS. NEUMAN: Okay, remember, we have not
22 discussed it yet, so we recognize it's an issue.

1 We will absolutely identify that. What the
2 solution will be or what our recommendation will
3 be because we don't make the solution, we
4 recommend, we will see where we go.

5 MR. GOTTFRIED: By the way, as far as
6 the partisan versus non-partisan, you know, I had
7 a campaign where I was endorsed by partisan folks.
8 Lots of candidates have had campaigns --
9 (inaudible) had a campaign where she was endorsed
10 by partisan. I don't care. Make a rule, and the
11 candidates will follow the rule. If you say you
12 can't have any endorsements by partisan people,
13 just make the rule. Make it very clear, and we
14 will all follow the rule, and it's as simple as
15 that. But in the absence of any rules about that,
16 who can endorse and who cannot endorse -- I'd like
17 to see all the endorsement stuff go away anyway.
18 It's a pain in the neck for candidates.

19 MS. NEUMAN: And remember, every time
20 you have a rule, when you do not abide by the
21 rule, then what is the penalty? And so, you then
22 decide is it better to leave people police each

1 other, so to speak, or is it better to have a rule
2 and then deal with if there is someone who doesn't
3 follow the rule? And so, where's the tipping --
4 point on that?

5 MR. GOTTFRIED: Good point.

6 SPEAKER: On that same subject I have a
7 question because I'm still toying with the fact
8 that we're talking about partisan, non-partisan,
9 but if a person wants to endorse someone and
10 they're -- okay, they're a delegate. Okay, they
11 have a position. My concern is does that person
12 have a right as an individual to endorse versus I
13 as the senator? You know what I'm saying?

14 MR. GOTTFRIED: That's a great point.

15 SPEAKER: And I don't want to take away
16 a person's individual right versus their position
17 right which I think could be made clear, which I
18 think she's addressing, but --

19 MR. GOTTFRIED: Could be interpreted as
20 a Freedom of Speech issue, yet again, and you're
21 absolutely right, and so it's tough.

22 SPEAKER: I mean I had that issue being

1 on the board and it was like, oh, I can't do this
2 and I can't do that because I'm, you know, but I'm
3 not saying I'm speaking for the board. I have
4 rights as an individual, but I still am
5 constrained in doing things.

6 MR. GOTTFRIED: There are nuances. Is
7 the candidate endorsed by John Smith or by Senator
8 John Smith?

9 SPEAKER: Right, exactly, yeah.

10 MR. GOTTFRIED: You know, so, you're
11 right.

12 MS. NEUMAN: Jim?

13 MR. MARRINAN: Jim Marrinan. It should
14 be clear that any individual can endorse any
15 candidate, but if they use their title -- I'm
16 Senator so-and-so or I'm Delegate so-an-so or
17 whatever, that makes it different.

18 MS. MULLICAN: We need to discuss that
19 because I don't think that's in the rules.

20 MR. MARRINAN: It isn't. That's what
21 I'm saying. You need some rules to address that.

22 MS. MULLICAN: That's another one of our

1 list of things. You guys are great. You've given
2 us a lot of work.

3 MS. NEUMAN: No, no, and due respect to
4 Brigitta's pointing out the amount of work, my way
5 of looking at it is if this of concern to you, and
6 we are the people that are in position to hear it
7 and try to do something about it, then we will do
8 the best that we can to work with it and try to
9 represent you and the citizens of Rockville as
10 best we can, recognizing we may not always agree.
11 We may not always come to the solution that you're
12 looking for, but you have our word that we will
13 give it -- the issue -- as much attention as we
14 can and try to give a thoughtful deliberations
15 with rationale as to why we've come up with
16 whatever position we've come up with. That
17 doesn't mean it won't come back again, but we'll
18 continue to debate if that's the case. Any other
19 parting words? Graham has something else?

20 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, I think just
21 implicit in what Lois is saying is that we're
22 going to have to prioritize what has to be done,

1 and we will find that not everybody's going to
2 agree with what the prioritization. I may say
3 one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight,
4 nine, ten. No, no, I think number six should
5 really be number ten and such as that, so
6 realistically we're not going to be able to please
7 everybody all the time because we may end up
8 putting something that's a lower priority than
9 someone else probably feels should have been made
10 the number one priority, so just be patient.

11 MS. NEUMAN: And the thing is we amongst
12 ourselves may not agree on what is the priority
13 order, so first we come to that. But I always
14 remember Eleanor Roosevelt when she said you can't
15 please all the people all the times, but we'll
16 work to do the best we can. Yes, Rich?

17 MR. GOTTFRIED: Rich Gottfried again.
18 Two comments. One, Brigitta mentioned about the
19 Maryland ethics laws. I want to add that comment
20 from a different perspective. Not so much say
21 literally, going line by line. My perspective and
22 my view was if you -- looking at the document as

1 far as how they lay out guidance and examples, you
2 know, compared to how we're giving guidance and
3 examples to our candidates. Does that make sense?
4 That's kind of my viewpoint. And then as far as
5 priorities, my suggestion is again, I know we all
6 have different priorities but I think it hasn't to
7 be voted by the mayor and council as far as, you
8 know, going four years, but I think because of the
9 timeframe, to give yourself this year and half, if
10 you can maybe work on a template of what the new
11 language and all that would have to be -- all the
12 different sections in the code, if the green light
13 was given by the mayor and council to have a four
14 year election, so that when it comes you might not
15 have all the answers to the template in the next
16 year or year and a half as far as, you know, is it
17 all four going to be on and off? Is it going to
18 be half? Going to be, you know, rotating or, you
19 know, one's for one. You know, whatever those
20 details are, but maybe the basic template of what
21 the change in law would be for a four year
22 election. And then one of the things that Jim

1 mentioned last meeting was to have maybe a
2 Saturday, what that would look like for early
3 voter registration? You mentioned that last time.
4 And I don't know what the process of what that
5 really entails about gearing up to have people in
6 place on a Saturday and people to register on that
7 same day, so --

8 MS. NEUMAN: I have two reactions. One
9 is unless you know something that we don't know,
10 the mayor and the council have not voted yet on
11 that referendum.

12 MR. GOTTFRIED: The people have spoken
13 to approve it.

14 MS. NEUMAN: Well, the mayor and the
15 council have --

16 MR. GOTTFRIED: (Laughter) What? To go
17 four years? The citizens have voted.

18 MS. NEUMAN: The mayor and the council
19 still need to vote on it and give us direction.
20 -- That's number one, so I'm taking nothing as a fait
21 accompli. I've learned long ago you don't do
22 that. You're always surprised. The second thing

1 is you talk about the campaign finance packet, the
2 information that's given to the candidates.

3 MR. GOTTFRIED: Yeah.

4 MS. NEUMAN: We give a handbook out, and
5 what you're essentially saying is the handbook is
6 not satisfactory?

7 MR. GOTTFRIED: Correct.

8 MS. NEUMAN: Can you or whoever's of
9 interest, concern this is, could you red-mark it?
10 Could you take a copy of the current handbook and
11 give us comments back as to where it's
12 unsatisfactory or what you would like to see
13 change? It's really hard to work with "It should
14 be better. It should be tighter. It should be,
15 should be, should be." But if you can give us --
16 I said the same thing in terms of the campaign
17 finance reports.

18 MR. GOTTFRIED: Right.

19 MS. NEUMAN: If you can take those
20 reports and say this line, this cell, does not
21 match the total in this cell, real easy to work
22 with. When it's, "There's a problem with the

1 report," I mean narrow it down at least to the
2 table or at least to the -- right. So, if the
3 same thing -- you can do the same thing with the
4 campaign finance packet that would be unbelievably
5 helpful.

6 MR. GOTTFRIED: They're putting it all
7 on me, I mean because I didn't run last time.

8 MS. NEUMAN: I'm not running --

9 MR. GOTTFRIED: I know.

10 MS. NEUMAN: -- or putting it all on
11 you. I'm just responding to the comments.

12 MR. GOTTFRIED: If you could -- instead
13 of just my voice, but if you ask all the people
14 who ran --

15 MS. NEUMAN: Sure.

16 MR. GOTTFRIED: -- you know, if they
17 would -- from their own perspective --

18 MS. NEUMAN: It's wide open if any --
19 but now --

20 MR. GOTTFRIED: You can go ask them.

21 MS. NEUMAN: No, wait, wait. This
22 year's campaign finance materials -- I can't --

1 none of us on this board can speak to what came
2 before. We know that we revised things, and we
3 need to know how those revised things are working,
4 whether it's the campaign finance report forms,
5 the instructions, if there's a problem with the
6 table, if something doesn't link with something
7 else. You need to tell us exactly what the
8 problem is, not just there is a problem. And the
9 same thing would go for the training. The same
10 thing would go for the handbook. Is there
11 something in there -- this last year's --

12 MR. GOTTFRIED: Right.

13 MS. NEUMAN: -- the one that was done
14 for '13. Take that copy and then tell us what the
15 problems are.

16 MR. GOTTFRIED: I think you should also
17 ask all the people who were elected --

18 MS. NEUMAN: That's why I'm throwing it
19 out. I mean --

20 MR. GOTTFRIED: I'm thinking ask the
21 mayor and council who are currently elected and
22 the other people who didn't make it.

1 MS. NEUMAN: That's what this session
2 was supposed to be doing; whoever --

3 SPEAKER: Wrap-ups.

4 MS. NEUMAN: -- I don't mean to be
5 pointing a finger at you. You just happen to be
6 standing --

7 MR. GOTTFRIED: I'm standing here in the
8 way.

9 MS. NEUMAN: -- when the topic came up
10 and you said it, so I'm responding to you.

11 MR. GOTTFRIED: But you should get --
12 you know, from everybody that's been affected.

13 MS. NEUMAN: And anybody's who's
14 concerned about it should -- and I think we've
15 left the door open for that on everything. If
16 there's something we've done that somebody is --
17 we could do it better or we've left a whole
18 somewhere or we haven't corrected something as
19 well as -- somebody said to us the campaign
20 finance report are much, much, better. Really
21 much better this time around, but there are one or
22 two areas that could be fixed. Fine, tell us what

1 those one or two areas are, and we'll fix it.
2 Same deal goes for that manual. If it's not doing
3 what it's supposed to be doing, then why give it
4 out? We need to fix it, but we can't fix it until
5 we know what's wrong.

6 MR. GOTTFRIED: Right. And I think you
7 also need to have the city clerk and the city
8 manager -- again, like all of our plans we have a
9 process like the Rockville Pipeline, like the
10 (inaudible) Neighborhood Plan. Go and take
11 section by section to see ways to improve. I mean
12 they do that all the time. They have, you know,
13 you have discussions with the staff about, you
14 know, here's this section. Is this clear from a
15 layman's perspective, you know?

16 MS. NEUMAN: Okay, now let me try to
17 capture this a little bit.

18 MR. GOTTFRIED: Right.

19 MS. NEUMAN: Exactly how big is the
20 problem with these campaign finance -- the
21 campaign packet, the guidelines for people running
22 for office? Is it a huge issue where we need to

1 go page by page? Or are there certain -- I'm
2 thinking it's just a couple of things, but is it
3 huge?

4 MR. GOTTFRIED: I'm saying page by page.
5 This could be a two or three year project.

6 MS. NEUMAN: Oh, no, no, no.

7 MR. GOTTFRIED: Yeah, yeah.

8 MS. NEUMAN: No, no, no.

9 MR. GOTTFRIED: When's the last time the
10 packet was looked at and revised?

11 MS. NEUMAN: We looked at it this last
12 time around.

13 MR. GOTTFRIED: Okay.

14 MS. NEUMAN: That's why I'm saying, look
15 at what we did. We did do it, so take a look at
16 what we did, and then as you worked with it, for
17 those that used it, what were the problems? You
18 might have a few question marks in places.

19 MR. GOTTFRIED: Right.. I didn't run
20 last time, so I don't know what the problems were.

21 MS. NEUMAN: I can't deal with what came
22 before. We can deal with what we did, and we know

1 we worked hard on it, and we got no feedback --

2 MR. GOTTFRIED: From any of the
3 candidates?

4 MS. NEUMAN: Too much? Sarah wants to
5 say something.

6 SPEAKER: He said something earlier. He
7 mentioned the candidate's orientation versus the
8 candidate notebook. I think he's talking about
9 the candidate's orientation. That comes from the
10 city manager's office. That, we have no control
11 of, but if that does need to be looked at, then
12 that needs to be addressed with the city manager's
13 office because orientation's totally out of the
14 clerk's office. The candidate's notebook and the
15 candidate's judges training; that falls under the
16 clerk's office, but not the orientation itself.
17 So, earlier you said candidate's orientation,
18 which is different from what we're responsible
19 for, so.

20 SPEAKER: Okay.

21 MS. NEUMAN: The beauty of having people
22 like Sarah and Doug around are they keep,

1 certainly me, on the straight and narrow that when
2 I mix things like that, you know, tell us --
3 they're very good at saying this belongs to over
4 here, and that belongs over there. So, some
5 things aren't ours. I'm willing to take it all
6 on, but it's not mine. (Laughter) Doesn't belong
7 to us, but thank you. But please, if -- the moral
8 of the story is the more specific you can be with
9 input to us, the problem -- Mr. Marrinan, you did
10 that on your last -- on the materials you gave us
11 the last time. Here's the problem. Here's some
12 of the issues resolving the problem. Here's the
13 suggested solution. Very helpful.

14 MR. MARRINAN: Thank you.

15 MS. NEUMAN: And some of the issues
16 we're aware of and we can tell you -- or we'll
17 talk about it and then we can get the information
18 out to you, but we have to figure out the best way
19 to do that; whether we should have another open
20 forum or whether there should be -- we'll have to
21 figure that out. Any other comments? Reactions
22 to anything? Okay, Mr. Marrinan is ready to go.

1 SPEAKER: Jim Marrinan.

2 SPEAKER: Did you want to know -- we are
3 going to do a formal presentation to the mayor and
4 council (inaudible) and that --

5 MS. NEUMAN: We are.

6 SPEAKER: -- is in sometime mid-March.

7 MS. NEUMAN: Mid-March. Mid-March we
8 will have a report -- a preliminary report to the
9 mayor and council, the idea being that we cannot
10 investigate every single thing, so we will go
11 through everything and determine topics, or at
12 least determine areas, and then say to the mayor
13 and council these are the areas that we've
14 identified that we can work on, and then hear what
15 they say as to their concerns and what their
16 reaction to what we've said, and then we'll go
17 back to the drawing board and work on it however
18 they want us to work on it. And then we'll have
19 another report to them. And our timeline is
20 really short, so we're running to keep up. One
21 more comment?

22 MS. MULLICAN: Yeah, I'd just like to

1 make one more comment. You know, we had these two
2 wrap-up sessions, and those of you who came here
3 are not the candidates, the managers, or the
4 treasurers, if I'm correct. So, it would seem to
5 me that if there were real serious problems with
6 any of the issues they had that this gave them an
7 opportunity twice to come; one on a Saturday, one
8 on the evening. And also wanted to tell you we
9 did receive some e-mails that were comments, but
10 as a rule I did not hear from the campaign
11 managers, treasurers, or candidates, or even those
12 who didn't make it that there were serious issues
13 or -- I mean it just didn't come up. It came up
14 from you all, so I just want you all to know that
15 in my mind, things went well because they didn't
16 come up with any serious -- as you all know, there
17 were some issues during the election. I think the
18 anonymous thing was a big, big, big deal. It was
19 addressed. We got answers, and you know, it
20 wasn't clear, and then the code was -- we know the
21 code has to be clarified, which brought up other
22 issues which was good, but what I'm saying, as a

1 rule the election -- I don't think there were any
2 serious issues from my perspective. So, I'm just
3 letting you know that. We gave you all --
4 opportunities for those people who were affected
5 two sessions to come and by e-mail, that I just
6 don't see that real issues, but we know there's a
7 lot of stuff, so we have to do it. It gets --

8 MS. NEUMAN: We had our ear to the
9 ground waiting to hear from some of you in this
10 room as well as anybody else to tell us how things
11 went in terms of the election when we put things
12 out and in the course of the election, and we know
13 that many people are not shy about letting their
14 reactions be known. And we heard a resounding
15 silence, so that led us to believe -- and I don't
16 think we've misinterpreted it, that for the most
17 part things went well. But there are still some
18 things that need to be addressed, and we will now
19 start trying to tackle those, and Mr. Gottfried,
20 we do have your list, and we will start. That's
21 in the pile, and we will go through it all, and
22 you'll keep our feet to the fire to make sure that

1 we've done what we can with those issues. And we
2 have solved some of them we think. One of them
3 was the campaign finance -- oh, you forgot them.
4 We think we have. Okay, anything else? Going
5 once, going twice. Okay, thank you all so much
6 for coming and for sharing your concerns and your
7 ideas with us. It doesn't happen without all of
8 us working together, and you'll hear more from us
9 after we get ourselves together and go through
10 everything. So, thank you very much. Have a good
11 rest of your evening, and we'll be in touch.

12 SPEAKER: Thank you.

13 (Whereupon, the HEARING was
14 adjourned.)

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1 CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY PUBLIC

2 I, Carleton J. Anderson, III do hereby
3 certify that the forgoing electronic file when
4 originally transmitted was reduced to text at my
5 direction; that said transcript is a true record
6 of the proceedings therein referenced; that I am
7 neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by
8 any of the parties to the action in which these
9 proceedings were taken; and, furthermore, that I
10 am neither a relative or employee of any attorney
11 or counsel employed by the parties hereto, nor
12 financially or otherwise interested in the outcome
13 of this action.

14 /s/Carleton J. Anderson, III

15

16

17 Notary Public in and for the

18 Commonwealth of Virginia

19 Commission No. 351998

20 Expires: November 30, 2016

21

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